

Rules of the South Cotswold Bowls League

1 Object

To promote competitive bowls for male club members in the area. The league is open to teams from any club endorsed by member clubs at the AGM.

2 Management

Day to day management will be by a committee consisting of Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and Fixture/Results Secretary. The preference would be to form this committee with no more than one representative from any club.

3 Meetings

An Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held in October of each year. The league secretary will give twenty-eight days' notice by letter of this meeting to the Officers and to each member club. At this AGM all reports and the balance sheet will be presented for approval and all Officers will be elected.

Each club will send at least one representative to the AGM (only one representative will be allowed to vote). Six points may be deducted at the start of the next season from all teams from any club that fails to send a representative.

4 League Composition

- a) The league will consist of divisions
- b) Each team will consist of three rinks of four players
- c) If more than one team is entered by a member club, the teams shall be suffixed, A, B etc., and this will define the ranking of these teams within the club
- d) The League structure will be decided each year at the AGM along with the necessary promotions and relegations to achieve this. The aim should be wherever possible, the promotion of two teams from each division
- e) Any club that is a member of the league may only withdraw teams by starting with its lowest ranked team
- f) A new team entering the league, or a team re-entering after withdrawal, will play in the lowest division
- g) Any changes to the league structure will be voted on by the member clubs at the AGM of the league.

5 Competition

- a) Each division will play on a league basis. All games will be played on the designated Tuesday evening, with an unfit green being the only condition for postponing a match
- b) If games have to be postponed, the home team must offer a choice of three alternative dates for the re-arranged game. These dates must be within twenty-eight days of the published date, and not more than seven days after the last published league fixture date. The dates should be offered within three days of the original fixture date and one of the offered dates must be accepted by the away team within three days of receiving the new dates. Both captains are responsible for advising the results secretary of the re-arranged date immediately that it is agreed

- c) All games will commence at 18.30, except in August when they will commence at 18.00. Games will consist of twenty-one ends, with two trial ends
- d) Clubs will be required to keep the score cards for each game until the end of the season.
- e) Rinks will not be pre-allocated. The scorecards will be placed face down on a table, shuffled and the away captain will number the rinks
- f) If a team starts with a rink of only three players a fourth player may join the game only up to and including the second end. At the end of the game one shot will be deducted from the final score for that rink for each end where only three players were present. However if the whole game is played with only three players the rink will forfeit 25% of its final shot score (rounded up to the nearest whole number) instead of losing one shot per end. When playing as a triple, lead and two shall bowls three woods, the skip two woods
- g) The points awarded will be two points for each winning rink (one to each side if the score is tied), and four points to the team with the highest aggregate of shots (two points to each team if the aggregate score is tied)
- h) In the event of rain or other unavoidable cause stopping a game, the points will be shared, unless fifteen ends have been played on all rinks, when the result will stand as that on all three rinks at the end of fifteen ends
- i) The home captain is required to e-mail the results to the fixture secretary before 18:00 on the day following the match. Failure to do so will result in the offending team being deducted two points
- j) If a team is withdrawn during the playing season, the results of all matches against that team will be deleted
- k) At the end of the season the position of the teams in a division will be determined by the total number of points won by each team. In the event of two or more sides having the same number of points, the position of the clubs will be decided by the shot difference. If the shot difference is the same, then the higher number of shots scored will decide the higher placed side
- l) In the event of a team being unable to field a side they will forfeit the game. Their opponents will be awarded all 10 points and their shot difference adjusted by +10. The defaulting team will get 0 points and their shot difference adjusted by -10
- m) Matches will be played in greys and white shirts or club shirts provided that all members of the team wear the same style of garment. Club coloured wind jackets, sweaters and rainwear are also permitted. All shirts and other external wear must be approved and registered with the County

6 League Fees

The fees for the subsequent season will be agreed at the AGM. These fees should be sent to the league treasurer by April 30th (before the start of the league programme).

7 Eligibility

Participation in the league is confined to bona fide members of the affiliated clubs.